

MINUTES OF THE CHARTER SCHOOL GOVERNANCE, ACCOUNTABILITY, AND
AUTHORITY TASK FORCE (ACT 130, SESSION LAWS OF HAWAII 2011)

August 31, 2011

Conference Room 225, State Capitol

I. Members Present

Senator Jill Tokuda, Hawaii State Senate
Representative Della Au Belatti, Hawaii House of Representatives
Don Horner, Board of Education
Tammi Chun, Office of the Governor
Robert Campbell, Department of Education (Superintendent of Education's Designee)
Roger McKeague, Charter School Administrative Office
Ruth Tschumy, Charter School Review Panel
Lisa Okinaga, Kamehameha Schools
Megan McCorriston, Ho'okako'o Corporation
Gene Zarro, Hawaii Charter Schools Network
Steve Sullivan, Hawaii Charter Schools Network

II. Adoption of Minutes

Mr. McKeague moved that the minutes of the August 10, 2011 Charter School Governance, Accountability, and Authority Task Force (Task Force) be approved. Mr. Zarro seconded the motion.

The Task Force unanimously adopted the motion and the minutes were adopted.

III. Remarks by the National Association of Charter School Authorizers (NACSA)

Representatives from NACSA attended the last Working Group meeting. NACSA reported that they are here to conduct a review of the Charter School Review Panel, among other aspects of Hawaii's Charter School System, and will be sharing their recommendations with the Task Force in September.

IV. Report of Working Group #2

Senator Tokuda presented the report from Working Group #2 which focused on identifying how the charter school governance structure connects and relates to the state education agency. Specifically, Working Group #2 focused on three overarching themes:

- (1) Need for transparency and access to discretionary funds when it comes to federal dollars;
- (2) Need for elevated status for charter schools when it comes to federal grant applications and propels; consultation requirements for both the applications and in the development of accountability work plans; and
- (3) Access to federal grant opportunities limited in having only on LEA.

Working Group #2 recommended that a Charter School Local Educational Agency be established in statute for the purpose of handling federal funding disbursements. The Working Group #2 Report which further highlights the Task Force's discussion on this issue is attached hereto.

Mr. Campbell provided a comparison between the roles and responsibilities of a Local Education Agency and State Education Agency for various federal title fund moneys and IDEA funds. The comparison is attached as Attachment "A" to the Working Group #2 Report.

Working Group #2 also provided some draft language for Chapter 302B, Hawaii Revised Statutes, to define the "Charter School Local Education Agency" and to provide some guidance on roles and responsibilities with regard to special education services and the exemption from certain state laws. Detailed notes of the Task Force's discussion on this issue are attached as Attachment "B" to the Working Group #2 Report.

The suggestion to establish a designated complex area and complex area superintendent was raised and the Task Force discussed the possibility of creating either:

- (1) A Charter School Local Educational Agency;
- (2) A Charter School Complex Area Superintendent; or
- (3) A hybrid of (1) and (2).

The Task Force discussed the opportunities, responsibilities, and liabilities of each of the three options and determined that further evaluation was required. The Task Force recommended that Working Group #2 and #3 meet together to discuss both objectives and to consider the LEA or CAS models as weighed against the three overarching themes identified.

V. Working Groups #2 and #3

Working Groups #2 and #3 will meet on September 7, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in Room 225 to continue the discussions relating to a Charter School LEA, Charter School CAS; or hybrid. Working Group #3 will focus on identifying the oversight and monitoring responsibilities of the Charter School Review Panel, the Charter School Administrative Office, and the local school boards and develop a process for enforcement.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned. The next Task Force meeting is scheduled for September 21, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. at the Capitol in conference room 211.